

Bangalore Mirror

TEMP Max 33 | Min 22 | Humidity 33%

Mostly Cloudy

Sensex 73,872

Nifty 22,405

Gold 63,607

Silver 70,900

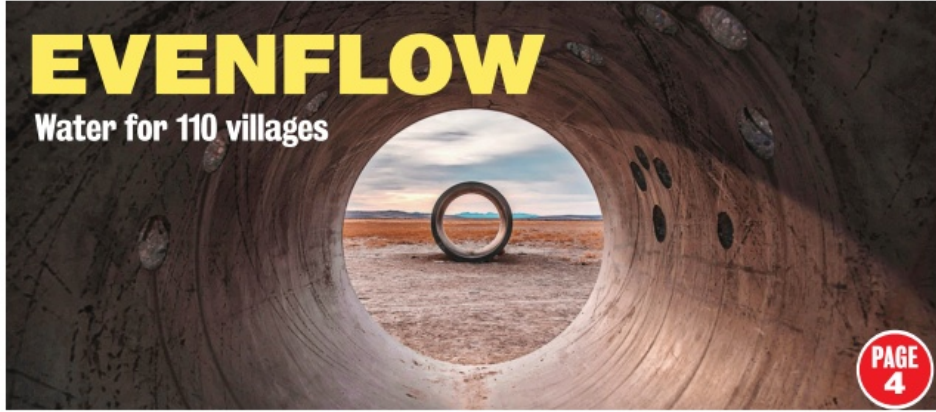
Dollar 82.92

Euro 89.92

GBP 105.07

EVENFLOW

Water for 110 villages



PAGE 4

TOXIC FUMES

This must be hellfire



PAGE 5

Response time of emergency vehicles on some routes has doubled in city to 30-40 minutes in some instances

TIME AFTER TIME

Hebbal to Silk Board, Sarjapur Road, Bannerghatta Road, Hoskote Road and Shivajinagar among most congested



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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Ongoing road development works, metro construction activities, roads riddled with potholes, dividers at junctions, and unmanned traffic signals are only a few amongst the reasons that have increased the response time of ambulances in the city. According to ambulance operators and city

hospitals with dedicated ambulance services, the response time of emergency vehicles on some routes has doubled.

"On average, the response time of ambulances has increased by 30-40 minutes over the last one and a half years or

so. This increase in travel time is mainly due to heavy traffic and narrow and congested roads. While the average response time has increased, it has gone up considerably on some roads. For instance, the duration for a round trip from Rainbow

Hospital in Marathalli to OM Hospital and Shreyas Hospital used to be one hour, but now it takes nearly two hours," said Suhail, facilities operations, Rainbow Children's Hospital, Marathahalli.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8 >>

“Every traffic junction that connects two major localities is our pain point

— Head of emergency dept, Aster RV Hospital

Hell on two wheels

Of 8 lakh-odd traffic violations recorded in 2024, two-wheelers account for more than 7 lakh cases



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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Two wheelers account for the highest percentage of booked cases of traffic violations in Bengaluru at 89.33%.

According to the traffic police stats, out of the total 8,47,000 thousand cases recorded in 2024 for traffic violations, two wheelers in the city accounted for over 7,57,000 cases.

Cars or Light Motor Vehicles (LMVs) are far behind the two wheelers contributing to 9.56 percent of total violations.

Good vehicles, autos, and tempos made up to 0.15%, 0.27%, 0.27%, respectively.

Buses contributed 0.43% to the total violation cases.

A senior police officer of the traffic police department told BM that most of the offences are committed by two wheelers because of their ever increasing number in the city.

"In our city, the prevalence of traffic violations, such as driving without a helmet, wrong-side driving, and using footpaths, is significantly higher among two-wheelers. While other vehicles like trucks, four wheelers, and school buses are also booked for these offences, the volume is comparatively lower," said the police officer.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8 >>

3 THINGS TO DO

01 Paintings and more



Explore the Gallery of Dreams, an exclusive art exhibition celebrating International Women's Day. Over 30 women artists, both experienced and emerging, present more than 50 captivating artworks. From abstract pieces to vivid landscapes, still-life arrangements to poignant portraits, immerse yourself in a diverse display of artistic talent. This exhibition promises to enchant art connoisseurs, enthusiasts, and students alike with its visual splendour.
Where: Shades Creative Gallery, Koramangala
When: March 1 to March 8 **Where-**

02 Art with a cause



Explore the thought-provoking exhibition "Shapes of Unseen Voices" by Pragati Dalvi Jain, featuring a multidisciplinary body of work including conceptual and performative photographs, sculptural and video installations, live performances, and paintings. Through her art, Pragati delves into personal and societal subjects influenced by gender and identity politics. Her work sheds light on individuals often overlooked or marginalised, drawing attention to societal blind spots.
Where: Chitrakala Parishat
When: March 2 to March 6, 11 am to 7 pm

03 In the spotlight



Get ready to showcase your talent or enjoy a night of live entertainment at Open Mic - Rock the Stage. Whether you're a singer, musician, poet, comedian, or any other performer, this event provides a platform for you to shine. Join in for a diverse array of performances and support local artists as they take the stage.
Where: My School of Rock, Koramangala
When: March 10, 5.30 pm

UVCE demands separation order from BU at the earliest

Amidst student resistance and financial struggles, UVCE presses for autonomy

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With a faction of students opposing the separation of University Visvesvaraya College of Engineering (UVCE) from Bangalore University (BU), the UVCE administration is urging the State Government to issue a bifurcation order at the earliest. The UVCE administration has presented a list of requests to the State Government, stressing the need for measures to divide assets from BU and ensure all necessary facilities for UVCE's autonomy.

An official said, "While the State Government plans to establish UVCE as an autonomous institution akin to IIT, it has yet to issue any bifurcation order, prompting the UVCE authorities to demand swift action. During a recent visit by Higher Education Minister Dr MC Sudhakar to UVCE, the administration briefed him on the pertinent issues. The government intends to appoint a retired government official to oversee the transfer process and ensure its smooth execution."

However, the Higher Education Minister has assured that the order for UVCE's separation will be issued soon, stressing the need for autonomous management to develop UVCE akin to IITs.

It's worth noting that research students of the university previously opposed the separation of



University Visvesvaraya College of Engineering

Financially strained UVCE struggles to manage its resources. The college has had a pending water bill of Rs 10 crore owed to BWSSB since 1997

UVCE. BU is still deliberating on how to address issues concerning UVCE staff, such as post-retirement benefits and leave balances, as confusion persists regarding the exact number of UVCE staff. Earlier, BU earmarked 50 acres of land at the Jnanabharati campus for UVCE's expansion, a decision approved by the Syndicate. However, the formal transfer of land is pending, necessitating numerous meetings to resolve logistical concerns. UVCE urges the government to expedite the resolution of all outstanding issues and facilitate the separation process.

UVCE, affiliated with

Bangalore University, faces the prospect of detachment following the government's proposal to grant it autonomous status. This decision has plunged the college into a series of crises, marked by a lack of financial support and prolonged periods of lecturer salary delays. Meanwhile, financially strained UVCE struggles to manage its resources. The college has had a pending water bill of Rs 10 crore owed to Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board (BWSSB) since 1997. Despite soaring water consumption in UVCE and its hostel, the bill remains unpaid, accruing significant interest. UVCE contends

that BU, as its parent body until now, should be responsible for settling the outstanding water bill. However, cash-strapped BU also faces challenges in meeting these obligations.

In fact, UVCE has been grappling with a range of issues for quite some time now. Last year, a significant outcry ensued, involving hundreds of lecturers, parents, and students, who protested against the government's purported plans to privatise the engineering college. The students demanded immediate action from the government to secure funding for the college and ensure the timely payment of staff salaries. Additionally, they urged the government to halt the privatisation efforts and maintain UVCE's status as a government institution. Accusations were levelled against the government, alleging negligence in fulfilling its responsibilities towards the college, including the failure to allocate funds, address salary concerns, and implement measures for educational enhancement.

A student said, "UVCE inherits the educational legacy of Bharat Ratna Sir M Visvesvaraya, UVCE's founder, and his commitment to providing quality education to students from diverse backgrounds. The perceived gradual privatisation of the college has sparked apprehension among students, faculty, and alumni, who fear it may compromise the institution's founding principle of offering affordable and inclusive education."

1 chilli to fight off 2 threats

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The Indian Institute of Horticulture and Research (IIHR) has introduced a research-based high-yielding chilli F1 hybrid called Arka Nihira, suitable for the dual thick market segment and possessing combined resistance to chilli leaf curl virus and Phytophthora root rot.

India, being the largest producer, consumer, and exporter of dry chilli in the world, sees dry chilli contributing 31 per cent of the total spice exports from the country, earning foreign exchange worth Rs 8429.92 crore (Spice Board, 2021). Due to the vagaries of weather, Phytophthora root rot (PRR) and Chilli leaf curl virus are becoming serious threats to

chilli crop production.

Phytophthora root rot, caused by Phytophthora capsici Leonian, is a fungal oomycete soil-borne destructive pathogen that causes root rot. It is estimated to cause approximately USD 100 million in global losses annually (Barchenger et al., 2018). Whiteflies, transmitting begomoviruses, have recently become the most devastating threat to chilli production in India and the Indian subcontinent. The potential for destruction of the disease is evident from the fact that chilli cultivation has been abandoned by farmers in India due to nearly 100 per cent yield loss.

Chemical control of these pathogens is ineffective and also leads to chemical residues affecting exports. Exploring host plant resistance is the best-advocated strategy to combat these patho-



gens. In this direction, thorough phenotypic selection and marker-assisted selection have been utilised. Cytoplasmic genic male sterile (CGMS) lines were devel-

oped and used to develop F1 hybrids using LCV-resistant male parents. Twenty CGMS-based F1 hybrids, along with commercial check varieties, were evaluated for Phytophthora root rot resistance through artificial challenge inoculation and also in a sick plot. Among them, LCVH 24 (Arka Nihira), LCVH29 (Arka Dhriti), and LCVH 30 (Arka Gagan) consistently showed resistance to Phytophthora root rot and chilli leaf curl disease.

K Madhavi Reddy, Principal Scientist, Division of Vegetable Crops, ICAR-IIHR, said, "The salient features of Arka Nihira are that it is suitable for the dual thick market segment. It has a high yield (fresh 12-14 and dry 3-3.5 t/acre), and the length of Arka Nihira is 9-10 cm, with a width of 1.2-1.5 cm. It has dark green turns dark red (110-120 ASTA value) on maturity."

B'luru thirsts for each precious drop

Milk tankers lying idle to be used to supply drinking water to city

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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Amidst a severe water crisis gripping the city, the State Government has decided to repurpose idle milk tankers to deliver drinking water to Bengaluru residents. With many milk-supplying tankers lying dormant due to reduced milk production, authorities have seized the opportunity to convert these vehicles for water distribution.

Furthermore, in light of declining groundwater levels in various parts of Bengaluru, the government has initiated efforts to explore borewell sources in neighbouring districts like Ramanagar and Bengaluru Rural to augment the city's water supply.

Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar, overseeing Bengaluru's development, said, "Out of 16,781 borewells in Bengaluru Urban district, 6,997 have already dried up. Additionally, the completion of the Cauvery fifth stage project by May-end will provide some relief. We are repurposing idle milk tankers for water supply after thorough cleaning, capitalising on the reduced milk supply observed in certain areas."

Overpriced

Meanwhile, the government is cracking down on water tank-

er operations to curb exploitation of consumers. "Despite initiating the registration process for water tankers, the response has been dismal, with only 219 out of 3,500 tankers registered in Bengaluru so far. Some unregistered tankers are charging exorbitant rates ranging from Rs 500 to Rs 3,000 per tanker. We will establish a standardised pricing system based on distance, source, and area after thorough consultations with stakeholders to prevent such exploitation," said Shivakumar adding that the State Government has allocated Rs 148 crore earmarked by BBMP and Rs 128 crore by BWSSB, totaling Rs 556 crore to tackle the drinking water crisis. DKS urged citizens to prioritise water conservation efforts, highlighting the need for bulk users to switch to treated water for non-potable purposes.

He further outlined plans to ensure accountability and efficient management of water resources, including establishing a call centre for public grievances within BBMP, identifying and utilising non-functional RO water purification units, and nominating officers at various administrative levels to monitor water usage. "In the coming months, concerted efforts will be made to optimise water usage and revive dormant infrastructure to ensure sustainable water management for Bengaluru," added Shivakumar.



Residents of Herohalli at the BBMP head office, waiting to meet officials and Deputy Chief Minister demanding water supply to their area, on Monday



VK HONOURS 15 ACHIEVERS FROM DISTRICTS AROUND BENGALURU



R. ASHOKA

Leader of the Opposition
Karnataka Legislative
Assembly



**DR. NAGATHIHALLI
CHANDRASHEKHARA**

Author, Film Maker



ARCHANA JOIS

Cine Actress



NAGASHREE BEGAR

Cine Actress

Above dignitaries felicitated the awardees and unveiled a coffee table book
"ACHIEVERS OF KARNATAKA- DISTRICTS AROUND BENGALURU"
at an event held in Bangalore.



D.C. Venugopal
Nelamangala



Rahul Gowda
Hanchipura, Nelamangala



Lakshman
Ramanagar



Sadashiv Amin
Tumkur



Dr. Manjunath Reddy
Mulbagal



Shivakumar
Nelamangala



Raveesh
Tumkur



Dr. Aravind N.
Kolar



Dr. SRS Devaraj
Chikkaballapura



V. Narayana Swamy
Devanahalli



S.R. Gowda
Sira



Dr. Nagabhushan B.M.
Gubbi



Dr. Arjun M.B.
Doddaballapura



Dr. Saisuman N.
Pavagada



Shivanapura Ramesh B.
Devanahalli



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Flowing forward: Water for 110 villages

Efforts are underway to bridge city's water gap amidst Cauvery Stage V completion

■ Melvin Mathew
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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

As the Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board (BWSSB) prepares to finish Cauvery Stage V by May, efforts are underway to provide water connections to 110 villages. However, these villages will have to wait another year to receive household water supply.

Amidst water scarcity in Bengaluru, BWSSB is devising a plan to link the 110 villages to the city's existing BWSSB network. Once the Stage V supply works are completed, the pipeline work's culmination will ensure Cauvery Supply to all of Bengaluru's residents.

BWSSB has allocated Rs 2.23 crore for project management consultancy services to provide Water Supply facilities to the newly added/missing areas of 110 villages under the Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) jurisdiction, as part of the Phase-II Water Supply project.

To facilitate water supply and UGD (Ground Drainage) facilities to 110 villages situated in the periphery of BBMP covering an area of about 225 sq km, the Government of Karnataka has approved an Administrative Approval amounting to Rs 1500 crore. This includes Unaccounted for Water (UFW) reduction at a funding pattern of 1/3rd of funds from BWSSB and 2/3rd from the Government of Karnataka. The work of providing water supply facilities to the 110 Villages under the project zone has been divided into 5 zones: RR Nagar, Dasarahalli, Bytarayanapura, Mahadevapura, and Bommanahalli. The works are completed except for the commissioning of a few villages, as the Cauvery V stage project is still



Roads are dug up in various parts of the city to lay Cauvery pipelines

Once the Stage V supply works are completed, the pipeline work's culmination will ensure Cauvery Supply to all of Bengaluru's residents

in progress. The Detailed Project Report (DPR) for Phase II was submitted to Government of Karnataka and was approved on February 5, 2024.

The proposed water supply works for the missing/newly added areas of the 110 villages will be undertaken under phase II and need to be inte-

grated with existing DMA (District Metering Areas) and the formation of new DMAs as per the site's existing water supply of around 300 km.

This project will ensure the completion of the remaining 5 per cent of Bengaluru that is yet to be connected to the BWSSB network. "The Cauvery Stage V works will be completed by May this year. Once we start supplying water to the 110 villages, we want to ensure that there is a complete network of pipelines to ensure water reaches all households. The project has been taken up with government grants and it will ensure connectivity to the remaining 5 per cent falling under 110 villages. In total, we will be laying down around 200 km of pipeline," said a senior

BWSSB official.

The contract has been drawn for 18 months but BWSSB officials are confident that the work will be completed before a year. Along with the project, BWSSB will also construct a 13.5 ML Capacity GLR at Kalkere and a pumping station & pumping main at Ramamurthy Nagar.

The current water crisis in Bengaluru is largely prominent in areas out of BWSSB's network and this project will ensure Cauvery water connectivity for all. However, as the Cauvery Stage V works get completed by May, residents would have to wait for another year for the pipeline work to be completed. Currently, BWSSB has a 8,746 km pipeline network in Bengaluru.

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Problems in your area?
Send us a picture along with specific details. And please, no phone calls or spamming

Uncleared mess
Victoria Layout



Garbage has not been cleared from the area opposite the Government Urdu School on Linden Street, despite several complaints to the Health Inspector and Health Officer.

Floody streets
Marathahalli



There is a lack of clarity regarding the reduction of the width of the Rajakaluve near Divya Shree 77 Degree Apartment. This bottleneck has been causing floods in nearby areas during every monsoon for the past 23 years.

Facelift for another 20 junctions

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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

In addition to the existing 25 junction improvements, Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) is planning junction improvement at 20 more junctions. These junctions will feature more greenery and fountains at traffic junctions to improve air quality.

BBMP has announced the beautification and junction improvement at 20 new places at the cost of Rs 20 crore. These junctions will be improved by keeping pedestrian safety in mind.

"We have taken up 20 new junctions for improvement work. These will be modelled after the 25 junctions improvements that are in progress. The project is being implemented at the cost of Rs 20 crore under 15 finance grants," said a BBMP official.

The 20 junctions have been planned at Bytarayanapura Post Office, Bommanahalli Bus



New traffic signal poles installed at the junctions on MG Road

Stop, KR Puram RTO, Junction 1 of Ulsoor Lake, Junction 2 of Ulsoor Lake, NICE Road (over Bannerghatta Road), Nagarbhavi 12th Block Bus Stop, Binnamangala Bus Stop Junction, Cantonment Junction, Madhavan Park Junction,

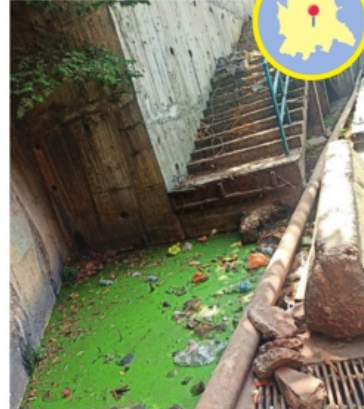
Junction 3 of Ulsoor Lake Junction 4 of Ulsoor Lake, Mekhri Circle, Jnanabharathi Junction, Mysuru Road, Bangalore Cafe Junction (KH Road), Garuda Mall Junction (Richmond Road), Banashankari Temple Junction, KIMCO Junction, Iblur Junction, and Sangolli Rayanna Junction.

While the previous junctions were planned around the central business district, most of the junctions covered under the new 20 junctions lie outside those limits.

The previous junction improvements were made with keeping in mind the increased pollution from vehicles and the installation of water fountains as combat. Apart from making traffic junctions safer for pedestrians, BBMP would also focus on making them more greener.

In the 2024-2025 BBMP budget, BBMP has allocated Rs 100 crore to make Bengaluru city more attractive by using coloured electric lights in flyovers, underbridges, road junctions, and parks. Additionally, Rs 20 crores have been allocated for beautifying junctions and public spaces.

Destroyed pavement
Majestic



The footpath and stairs adjacent to the Khoday Factory are in a dilapidated condition.

Citizens offer roadmap to fix Sarjapura's traffic woes

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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Groups such as Save our Sarjapura-SoS, WRI, Jhatkaa.org, and citizens have come out with a petition demanding that the traffic congestion issue in the area be addressed soon. The petition has got 5,000 signatures for comprehensive short-term, medium-term and long-term solutions.

For medium-term solutions, they have demanded that the stretch of Sarjapura Road from Iblur to Carmelaram have proper footpath infrastructure. The petition cited that no effort has been made to address this

shortcoming. Even the very high-density corridor from Iblur to Kaikondrahalli junction has not been prioritised, making it a nightmare for people to switch to public transit.

The next issue is last mile connectivity. There are limitations to having large buses plying on the arterial roads (Hosa Road, Haralur Road, Gear School Road, Muthanallur Road, etc) feeding into Sarjapura Road. The Sarjapura Road can have high-frequency buses, but it is integral to have feeder transport options- shared taxis, shared autos, mini-buses should be permitted to ply with a simplified (fixed) fare model.

Another issue is the inability to navigate junctions safely that ham-

pers bus usage. Problematic junctions include Iblur Junction (crossing on ORR), Haralur junction, Kaikondrahalli junction, Mori Gate junction, Doddakanalli junction, Carmelaram junction.

The long term solutions are metro and suburban rail stations planned on and off Sarjapura Road be equipped with feeder buses and adequate parking and to provide grade separators at key junctions.

Kartik S, campaigner at Jhatkaa.org, said, "BMTC's responsiveness to our concerns and willingness to take action is a testament to the power of citizen engagement. We appreciate their commitment to improving mobility in Sarjapura. We remain



optimistic that similar collaborative efforts with organisations like BBMP can bring about meaningful change for our city's future."

Mukund, Save our Sarjapura (SOS) said that citizens are willing to walk the extra mile towards reduc-

ing congestion in the IT corridor of south-east Bengaluru with all like minded agencies, including BMTC and traffic police. "We need BBMP to lead the way by creating sustainable infrastructure with focus on footpaths, junctions and good roads."



After man faints allegedly due to fumes from toxic waste fire, residents of areas near Kannuru dump yard want BBMP trucks to find another place to dispose of garbage

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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

The fire at the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike's (BBMP) dump yard at Hosur Bande near Kannuru, which smoldered for nearly one week before it died out on Sunday, has left residents of the area fuming. This is after a 45-year-old resident of the area is said to have fallen unconscious allegedly after inhaling poisonous gases from the dump yard.

"The episode has left others too scared for their health. The man fell unconscious a couple of days ago while returning to his home. Nearly 300 families live near the dump

yard and they are all at risk," said a social worker from the area, adding that the residents are planning to not stop BBMP's vehicles carrying garbage from entering their locality.

A week ago, Bangalore Mirror had reported about the fire at the dump yard.

While a team of BBMP officials and the fire brigade tried to put out the fire immediately, it kept smoldering for a week with plumes of smoke that had blanketed the area.

Locals had come together to stage a protest demanding that BBMP's vehicles carrying city garbage to their locality be stopped.

"We reached out to our area MLA and also staged a protest after the man fell unconscious. The MLA visited the spot and assured us of action. However, BBMP's trucks continue to dump garbage at the quarry and it is now reaching our houses.

Some houses are just over 10 metres away from the overflowing quarry," said a resident.

Locals, primarily from lower strata of society, say nearly 40 BBMP trucks have been dumping the garbage, and for people living in the area surrounding the quarry, the air is always toxic.

"Itchy eyes are a constant complaint of many residents in the area. The garbage consists of all kinds of waste including animal body parts, medical and construction waste, plastic, paper, etc. It is a constant health hazard. There are days when we cannot come out of our houses due to the bad smell," said another resident.

Experts say, the burning of mixed waste with plastic leads to some very toxic emissions like volatile organic compounds, polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons, and polychlorinated biphenyls, all of which are cancer-

“If the waste has PVC, dioxin and furan can be emitted at burning; These are among the most toxic compounds, as bad as radioactive materials” —Divya Tiwari, Saahas

ous and interfere with hormone functions.

"If the plastic waste has PVC, then dioxin and furan can also be produced at burning, which are some of the most toxic compounds; as bad as radioactive materials. Open burning of waste also generates PM 2.5 and the composition of this PM 2.5 is much worse than what is generated from construction and transport activities as it contains Black Carbon, Organic Carbon, Ammonium, Chloride, Nitrate, Sulfate, antimony, and other trace elements which are very harmful to the lungs," said Divya Tiwari, Principal Scientific & Advisor, Saahas.



BM had reported on Feb 29 about the fire raging at the dump yard

File photo of a garbage pile afire; according to experts burning of mixed waste causes toxic emissions

IN BRIEF

Banashankari metro station skywalk takes shape

The Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) has set out Rs 50 crore in this year's budget for the construction of a skywalk connecting Banashankari metro station with the Bangalore Metropolitan Transport Corporation (BMTC) bus stop in the vicinity. Commuters who frequent the area have appreciated the move and have called on the project to begin at the earliest as the Banashankari junction is currently a hassle to navigate.

The proposal for the foot over bridge (FOB) was first made in 2019. However, the project is seeing the light of day now.

The Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCL) in January 2022 disclosed a plan to build a skywalk connecting the Banashankari temple, the BMTC bus terminus (which also hosts the Traffic and Transit Management Centre) and the metro station. The Banashankari metro station has been operational since June 2017 and is considered to be one of the stations that receives high footfall.

"The current junction design is just the left-over space from the many projects this junction has seen over the years. With oddly shaped traffic islands and pedestrian crossings that lead nowhere, the junction is a nightmare for pedestrians who have to navigate through heavy bus and vehicular movement. The people buying vegetables and fruits from the vendors have to do so in the middle of the road with their back to the traffic. A large amount of bus movement through the junction is evident by the makeshift bus stops all over the junction and the number of buses parked in the middle of the carriageway," the BMRCL proposal noted.

It had said that the proposed Banashankari skywalk project will ensure smooth vehicular flow, designated bus stops, safe access for pedestrians and space for street vendors. **BMB**

Officials accused of issuing fake A-Khata certificates

Complaints lodged with Lokayukta against BBMP officers, alleging misconduct in issuing Khatas

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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Despite a ban on issuing A-khata certificates to revenue sites, some revenue officers of the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) persist in issuing them to both revenue sites and properties classified as B-khata. Despite frequent crackdowns on fake khata scams, BBMP revenue authorities continue to engage in such practices to profit.

The latest scam is about issuing fake khata certificates to around 200 revenue properties at Hemmigeppura ward in Yeshwanthpur Assembly constituency thus incurring a loss of Rs 5 crore to the BBMP.

NR Ramesh, former leader of ruling party in BBMP Council, has lodged a complaint with Karnataka Lokayukta against Devaraj, assistant revenue officer, Kengeri Sub Division, Basavaraj Maggi, Revenue Officer, Kengeri Sub Division, Abdul Rub, Deputy Commissioner, and Ajay V, Joint Commissioner of Rajarajeshwari Nagar Zone. The complaint (Lok/BCD/1337/2024) was lodged with Karnataka Lokayukta on Monday.

"I lodged a complaint with the Lokayukta requesting to take a stringent action against the BBMP officers and a private organisation for facilitating fake khata certificates to hundreds of properties," said Ramesh, stating that issuing A-khata certificates to revenue properties or the properties categorised as B-khata properties is against the norms.

"The interesting thing is that none of the property owners have submitted applications seeking A-khata certificates for their proper-



The BBMP revenue officers have to collect Rs 250 per square metre of the property towards development charges while issuing A-khata certificate

ties. An assessment register at ward number 198 does not have signatures of the case worker and the manager. It does not have the details when the register was opened for registering the property owners' names and details," he said.

Stating that the revenue inspector's report is a must for issuing a khata to a property, Ramesh also said that the revenue inspector did not submit the report to his higher

authorities for issuing khatas to 200 properties. "Puttamma, the wife of Muniyappa, got 72 khata certificates for the property bearing survey number 10 at Pattanagere, Gangadhar G S got 30 khata certificates for the property bearing the survey number 98/1 at UM Kaval," he said.

As per the norms, the BBMP revenue officers have to collect Rs 250 per square metre of the property towards development charges while issuing A-khata certificate. "Revenue Officer Dr Maggi and assistant revenue officer Devaraj have caused a loss of Rs 42,63,500 to the BBMP by issuing khata certificate for 2 acres and 25 guntas owned by Pradeep Krishna and one acre and 23 guntas of land owned by Jayamma at Vajarahalli village," he said.

He alleged that the Revenue Officer did not attend office on time

after assuming office of Kengeri Sub Division Revenue Officer. "The working hours for this revenue officer are from 4 pm to 11 pm. He has converted the revenue office into a real estate office. The CCTV footage will support my allegations against him," Ramesh said.

It may be recalled that it is not the first time the BBMP revenue officials issued fake khata certificates for around 200 properties. The BBMP revenue officials hit the headlines for issuing fake A-khata certificates for around 800 properties in Bommanahalli Zone in 2016. The BBMP suspended 10 officials for issuing fake khata certificates for around 500 properties in 2018.

A review committee, formed to look into alleged A-khata certificate scam, has recommended reversing 9.7k illegal A-khata properties to B-khata properties in July 2023.

BMRCL awards contract for purple line extension

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TWEETS @BangaloreMirror

The Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCL) has awarded M Venkata Rao Infra Projects Private Limited a contract worth Rs 48.62 crore to extend the purple line of the metro further from the Whitefield (Kadugodi) metro station. The extension will not house any new stations and spans only 588 metres. The objective is to improve train operations by providing a train reversal crossover-track facility. The contract also includes building a 28 metre extension of the under construction Whitefield Depot's third line. Both this and Reach 1B's mainline were built by ITD Cementation India Limited.

Once the extension is in place, it will allow the corporation to run high frequency train operations smoothly

The corporation had invited bids for the project in October last year with a Rs 42.30 crore estimate and 18 month completion deadline. Now, the extension of the 73.92 km Bangalore Metro Phase 2 project's Reach 1B will take the Purple Line across the Indian Railways' Bengaluru - Chennai line and up to Belathur Colony on Whitefield - Hoskote Road. At present, trains at the Whitefield (Kadugodi) station are using only one platform to serve passengers. Since the line ends 14 metres north of the station, incoming trains are required to slow down to a designated slower speed. Once the extension is in place, it will allow the corporation to run high frequency train operations smoothly.

BM Trippin' Tales

Consumer Connect Initiative

Conquer a real-life fortress at Channarayanaadurga

Sridhar.Vivan
@timesgroup.com

TWEETS @sridharvMIRROR

We often find ourselves captivated by the fortified towns depicted in movies like "Scorpion King," imagining the thrill of conquering them today! However, many believe that such forts no longer exist. Well, if you're eager to conquer a 'fantasy' fortress, then head to Channarayanaadurga, which, even today, offers the same exhilarating experience of conquering a fort!

Channarayanaadurga is a hill fortress in Koratagere taluk, situated midway between Koratagere and Madhugiri, rising to 3,734 feet above

sea level. This impressive mass of rock was beautifully fortified by the Madhugiri chief Channappa Goud in the middle of the 17th century, according to the Karnataka state gazetteer.

Channarayanaadurga is a multi-tiered fort with hardly anyone to guide you further. Consequently, for most of the trek, it resembles a maze as you navigate through different doorways to reach the summit point! The hill fort is located near the village of Channarayanaadurga, with no foot-steps for the first kilometre or so. Therefore, you must ascend at a steep 60-degree angle to reach the first doorway. The path can be risky, particularly during rainy days, but as you



climb, the breathtaking views of the nearby peaks will fuel your adrenaline.

Upon crossing the first doorway, the entire landscape of the hillock changes. What once appeared as a massive mass of boulders now reveals glimpses of greenery, a small pond, and resting places. Here, you'll encounter more doorways and catch your first glimpse of the summit point. However, caution is necessary in choosing the right doorway, as a wrong entry could lead you astray. The fort's complex layout, fortified by various rulers over the centuries, adds to its intrigue and historical significance.

At the entrance, you'll find inscriptions of Maratha generals, Sri Pant Pradhan, and Madhava Rao Ballal Pradhan. A further ascent

requires clearing bushes and navigating huge stairs to reach the summit, offering an exhilarating experience and stunning views. On the descent, you'll encounter caves and a temple known as Murari Matha, where locals revere a pair of 'padukas,' along with two samadhis of disciples of saint Murariswamy.

To reach Channarayanaadurga, it's a 104-kilometre journey from Bengaluru, closer to the popular Siddara Betta. There are two routes from the city, with the shorter route involving a right deviation from Dabaspet. However, due to ongoing road construction, we recommend an alternative route via Tumkur-Madhugiri and Channarayanaadurga.



PICS: KAUSHIK JN

RCB shining

Engaging fifties by skipper Smriti Mandhana and star all-rounder Elysse Perry took Royal Challengers Bangalore to a formidable 198 for three against UP Warriorz in their Women's Premier League match here on Monday. Looking to get out of a two-match losing streak, RCB promoted S Meghana into opening slot in place of Sophie Devine and the move paid off

'Nothing wrong in NIA probing cafe blast case'

All probes welcome

Minister Priyank Kharge said on Monday there is "nothing wrong" in the Union Home Ministry handing over Bengaluru's Rameshwaram Cafe blast probe to the National Investigation Agency (NIA).

Priyank Kharge, who is also Karnataka's Minister for IT/BT and Rural Development and Panchayat Raj, also slammed the BJP over its citing a private forensic lab report analysis that claimed that it is highly probable that 'Pakistan Zindabad' slogans were raised outside the Vidhana Soudha by supporters of a winning Congress candidate.

Kharge said they are open to probe into the Rameshwaram Cafe blast case.

"Whatever it is, we are open for investigation. We have a very great police team here in Karnataka. If they have given it to the NIA, there is nothing wrong in it...", Kharge told ANI on Monday.

The Ministry of Home Affairs has handed over Bengaluru's Rameshwaram Cafe blast probe to the NIA, which has started an investigation. The blast took place at the cafe on March 1 in Whitefield area in which 10 people were injured.

The Bengaluru Police had registered a case under the stringent Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act and Explosives Substances Act.

Answering a query about the 'pro-Pakistan' slogan row, Kharge asked how can an RSS-backed foundation give a private company the job of giving a report on the incident.

The BJP had earlier demanded the resignation of Siddaramaiah-led Congress government after supporters of a Rajya Sabha election winner from Congress allegedly raised slo-



CCTV visuals of the blast at The Rameshwaram Cafe in Bengaluru

3 arrested in pro-Pakistan slogan raising case

The Karnataka police have arrested three persons in connection with the alleged raising of pro-Pakistan slogans in the Assembly premises by the supporters of Congress leader Naseer Hussain following his election to the Rajya Sabha recently.

The office of the central DCP has released a press note in this regard on Monday confirming the arrests.

According to sources, the ac-

cused have been identified as Iltaz from Delhi, Munnavar, a resident of R.T. Nagar in Bengaluru, and Mohammad Nashipudi, a resident of Byadagi town in Haveri district of the state. The trio will be produced before the judge of the ACMM court at his residence in Koramangala after medical examination, the sources added.

The Vidhana Soudha police, which registered the case, have made the arrests.

-IANS

gans in the corridors of the Vidhana Soudha.

In a post on X, BJP Karnataka said that the scientific report has revealed that Congress is the creator of false news.

Kharge said multiple footage is being examined in the matter.

"How can an RSS-backed foundation give a private company this job? Who are they to give this job to them? Is it such a serious issue? They should be a little more serious about this...Why is it that the Samwad Foundation is so interested in this and why is BJP dancing to the

"We are open for investigation. We have a great police team here in Karnataka. If they have given it to the NIA, there is nothing wrong with it"

-Priyank Kharge, Minister

tunes of that Samwad Foundation? What connection do they have with the foundation and what is the footage they have given to the private forensic lab?" he asked.

"This report is inconclusive. This is purely to benefit BJP...We will take the decision as per the law. As far as I know, we are examining multiple footage," he told ANI.

-ANI

CM: Will retire from politics if proved I took bribe

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Monday said he would retire from politics if it is proved that he took a bribe from anyone.

Speaking at the state level convention of contractors at Palace Grounds, Siddaramaiah asserted that he never took any bribes, neither in his former tenure as chief minister, nor currently.

"I will retire from politics if it is proved that anyone bribed me to issue clearance letters to contractors during the period 2013-2018 or even after becoming chief minister for the second time (from May 20, 2023)," Siddaramaiah said.

He said he has directed Public Works Minister Satish Jarkiholi to award work worth Rs 4,000 crore without a package for the benefit of small contractors, as they were opposed to dividing single work into different packages.

Turning attention to the central government and the previous BJP government in the state, Siddaramaiah

said that Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman and former CM Basavaraj Bommai had both announced in their budgets that they would give Rs 5,300 crore for the Bhadra Upper Bank Project but till today not a single rupee has come.

"Despite the non-cooperation of the central government, we will pay the contractors in instalments. The government is positive about all the demands put forward by the contractors, including cancellation of the package system and payment of arrears," Siddaramaiah said.

-PTI



Man-made fire consumes 30 hectares of BRT Tiger Reserve

Efforts were still on to douse blaze entirely; officials say things will be under control soon, but conservationists fear more area was damaged

Authorities were racing to douse a massive fire that broke out at BRT Tiger Reserve, on Monday evening. An official from the Karnataka Forest Department (KFD) confirmed the news of the fire and informed that it engulfed 30 hectares of forest area in a short period.

"The fire was man-made and was probably started by disgruntled villagers at three different spots in the tiger reserve. It was set on Monday afternoon and by evening, over 30 hectares of forest area was gutted," said the official.

However, wildlife conservationists on-ground say the damaged area could be much more than 30 hectares.

"While the official number is 30 hectares, in all probability, it is much higher. It also appears that it



is in five areas of the Punanjur range of BRT. Since multiple places were set on fire, the task has become more onerous for forest staff to douse the raging flames.

There is a shortage of quick response vehicles owing to the Government of India's directive to

condemn vehicles that are 15 years old, which has constrained the fire services department from assisting on-ground forest staff. Otherwise, some parts of the tiger habitat could have been saved," said Joseph Hoover, former State Board for Wildlife member and founder of the United

Conservation Movement and Charitable Trust.

According to KFD officials, out of the three spots, fires at two spots were successfully doused by 7 pm and authorities are trying to put out a fire from the third area.

There are firefighters on the

ground and all efforts are being made to douse the fire.

The department has brought in fire watchers in good strength to manage the situation. There is not much to be worried about. It will be under control soon," said the KFD official.

BMB

Two wheelers lead traffic violations

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Residents BM spoke to felt now two wheelers are accessible to everyone and even minors, leading to more violations. "One can easily spot a teenager speeding on a busy road or school students doing wheelies on the road. These individuals are driving without a licence, and it is dangerous not only for them but for other people as well," said a resident.



Another resident added that two wheelers drivers are aware that even if they break the rules nothing is going to happen.

"There is always traffic congestion in the city; people are in a hurry. Techies on two wheelers don't care about the Rs-500 fine, so they don't follow lane discipline and speed," said the resident.

M'luru acid attack: 3 girl students suffer third degree burns on face

Three girl students suffered third degree burn injuries on their face after a youth threw acid on them at a government pre-university college in the taluka headquarters town of Kadaba in Dakshina Kannada district on Monday, police said.

"The girls have been shifted to a private hospital after the incident, which took place when they were preparing for the Pre-

University Course (PUC) exams sitting in the corridors of the college," a police official said.

The youth, wearing a mask and cap to conceal his identity, approached them with a bottle and threw acid targeting their faces. He has been identified as Abin hailing from neighbouring Kasaragod district in Kerala, police said.

He tried to escape after the

attack but the local people who were witness to this incident chased and apprehended him and handed him over to the police.

"The victims were taken to the Kadaba government hospital but the doctors there advised the families to shift them to Mangaluru for better treatment as the burn was extensive," the official said. Kadaba police are investigating.

PTI

Your Connect

real estate

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personal

CHANGE OF NAME

I, DEVARAJU DANDU, S/o. Muniyappa Dandu, residing at #3253/22, 5th Cross, Kumaraswamy Layout, Rajotsavanagar, Pipeline Road, Bengaluru 560078, have changed my name to DEVARAJ DANDU for all purposes vide Affidavit Dated: 02/03/2024 sworn before Notary S.I.BALAGURU, Bengaluru.

I, Archana Dharmichand D/o, Ganeshmal Dharmichand R/o Manidhari Enclave, 1st Main Road, Albert Victor Road, Bangalore - 560018 have changed my name to Archana for all purposes.

I Natti Suvarna W/O, N.V. Dhanunjayudu R/o 150, 2nd Main, 1st Stage, 5th Block, hbr Layout 1560043 have changed my name to Nuggu Venkata Suvarna.

I Shachi Bedi D/O, Satish Sharma R/o A1062, Fortius Waterscape, 102 Virgonagar, Krishnarajapura, Bengaluru have changed my name to Shachi Sharma.

I, IMRAN KHAN HABEEB S/o Habeeb Khan, R/at No.24A Cross, Madarsab Layout, Gura panapalya, Bangalore-560029 have changed my name to IMRAN KHAN, vide affidavit dated 04.03.2024 before notary R. Basavaraja, B.lore

I, Subhas Ganapati Naik R/o # 148, 7th C Main Woc, 3rd Block 4th Stage, Basaveshwara Nagar, 3rd Block 4th Stage, Basaveshwara Nagar have changed my minor daughter's name from Adithi S N to Adithi Subhas Naik.

LOST & FOUND

I, Balamurugan S. R/o Mariyappa Building Line, near Railway Gate, Kodigehalli, Thindlu Main Road, Vidyanarayapura, Bengaluru - 560097, have lost original Document related to Karnataka Housing Board, Intimation of Allotment of Property, Document No. ES000008146, in between 15.06.2023 & 26.02.2024 at Bengaluru. I have lodged a police complaint in this regard on 26.02.2024 with Report no. 0949553/2024 dated 26.02.2024. If found please contact on 9945256687

How to enable ambulances on busy stretches

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

According to another private hospital in the city, factors such as traffic conditions and infrastructure improvements influence ambulance trip durations. However, response time is usually longer during peak traffic hours.

"Early mornings and late evenings are manageable. However, an increase of 10 to 15 minutes is visible due to various reasons, especially during peak hours," said the head of the emergency department at Aster RV Hospital.

Some of the congested routes for emergency vehicles, as told by the hospitals, are from Hebbal to Silk Board, Sarjapur Road, Bannerghatta Road, Hoskote Road and Shivajinagar.

"Hebbal, Silk Board Road, Shivajinagar, Kanakapura Road, Sarjapur Road, Outer Ring Road, Marathahalli, and KR Puram are some routes with extended response time.

Moreover, every traffic junction that connects two major localities is a pain point and needs to be managed efficiently when it comes to giving way to ambulances," according to Aster's emergency



department, which cited instances wherein ambulance drivers were caught in traffic and their arrivals to the hospital were delayed.

"Of late, our pre-hospital emergency team had to retrieve a critical patient from Hebbal to JP Nagar; the patient reached the hospital 30 minutes late due to traffic," they said.

Service providers said while the public perception of ambulance sirens is generally positive, they feel helpless when vehicles are stuck in snarls. There is little room for traffic to make way for ambulances and

sometimes the sound of the siren gets lost in traffic noise, making it difficult for ambulances to cross junctions smoothly.

Drivers and hospitals are of the view that city roads should be made ambulance-friendly with the help of various measures.

Creating designated ambulance lanes to prioritise emergency vehicles by optimising traffic signals, enabling better real-time traffic management during emergencies, and improving road conditions are some ways that will enable ambulances to pass through busy stretches without much delay and hassle.

"The existing roads should be improved through various measures such as filling up potholes and making narrow stretches wider. Moreover, the city's traffic police can help by establishing a system whereby the whereabouts of ambulances ferrying critical cases on certain routes can be communicated to traffic police in advance and can be cleared beforehand. Authorities should explore the possibility of creating green corridors for emergency vehicles. It will save lives," said an ambulance pilot of a private company.



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No woman is ever happy with the length of her hair at any given point. Add to that the present lifestyle and the stress that comes along with it, and we have ourselves the perfect recipe for a hair fall disaster. However, many of these problems can be tackled at home with some handy and easy hair growth. We have seven great hair growth Pro Tips in store for you so you can have the hair you always dreamed of.

1 Massage Your Scalp

Regular scalp massage not only relaxes you but also helps improve blood circulation and strengthens hair from the roots. Scalp massages are also an ideal way to deal with stress, a leading contributing factor to hair loss. Massage your scalp, a couple of times a week, before going to sleep. This not only encourages a healthy sleep cycle but also promotes healthy hair growth.

Pro Tip: Good old coconut oil is the best way to go. But you can also use hydrating hair masks or serums to feed vitamins to your hair and scalp while massaging.

2 Regular Trimming

Our hair goes through three stages. The first stage, antigen, is when it is active and the cells in the hair roots divide rapidly. In the second stage, catagen, hair growth stops and the outer root sheath shrinks and attaches itself to the root of the hair. Split ends, hair thinning and breakage mark the last stage, telogen.

Trimming your hair lets you avoid the third stage, thus helping your hair have the desire to keep growing. Mark your calendars for the periodic hair-trimming sessions. Cut half or one inch to boost hair growth.

Pro Tip: Trimming also solves damaged or dull hair issues, so ensure you get one every two months or so.

3 Check Your Protein Intake

Whether you prefer your protein to come from meat, dairy, eggs or plant-based sources, it is necessary to consume a minimum of 0.8 grams to 1 gram of protein per kilogram of body weight. Hair follicles are made of a special fibrous protein called keratin that uses the amino acid found in protein-rich food to grow hair. Not only does this aid hair growth but also helps the mane appear thicker and fuller.

Pro Tip: Apart from protein, it is also advisable to consume an adequate amount of biotin (Vitamin B7) to aid hair growth.

4 Avoid Heat To Prevent Hair Breakage

Experts suggest that the effect of avoiding heat on your hair can be seen as early as one month after stopping it. Heat treatments leave hair brittle and dry and increase breakage which is detrimental to hair health as it strips the hair of keratin, the protein that keeps the hair looking healthy and feeling full. This is especially bad

MANE ISSUE

7 easy tips to make your hair grow faster



for women who have thin or fine hair, and in many cases has been found to contribute to hair loss due to breakage. It's best to air-dry the hair.

Many hair styling gadgets these days are also working with technologies that use cold air instead of hot. It is best to invest in these products if you still think

that styling your hair is a must.

Pro Tip: Keratin treatments help restore the health of heat-damaged hair. If you suspect that your hair has undergone heat damage (if you can find a change in your hair texture) then immediately add a conditioner to your hair cleansing routine. Also, Add a leave-in conditioner, and avoid

dyeing your hair. Resort to gentle towel drying.

5 Avoid Restrictive Dieting

There are several sustainable methods of losing weight without compromising your health. Restrictive dieting is especially dangerous as one not only doesn't meet their daily recommended calorie intake but also excludes several essential minerals and micronutrients like zinc, selenium, and magnesium from their diet which are essential for hair health.

The Daily recommended calorie intake for most women is 2000 calories and anything under 1300 calories can induce a hair shedding disorder called telogen effluvium that leads to severe hair fall. Although detrimental to hair health, this condition is generally reversible with a balanced diet.

Pro Tip: Crash dieting also leads to a deficiency of vitamins D and B which further harms hair health. Calorie restriction also affects the hair at a follicle level leading to a slower cell turnover rate which in turn affects hair re-growth.

6 Oil Your Tresses Regularly with Essential Oils

Essential oils are known to not only slow hair loss but also promote hair growth by acting at a follicular level and treating several scalp issues. Most essential oils are recommended for promoting hair health work by boosting blood flow and circulation in the scalp. This in turn delivers the required nutrition to the hair follicles and keeps the hair healthy. There are several essential oils that are useful in improving hair health, however, the most useful ones are:

- Rosemary
- Peppermint
- Tea Tree
- Lavender
- Bergamot
- Thyme

Pro Tip: Essential oils are very strong and can do more damage than good to your skin when applied without a milder carrier oil. For best results, mix a few drops (10-12) of your preferred essential oil in 2 tbsp of oil such as coconut, castor, almond, jojoba or even olive.

7 Try A DIY Coffee Conditioner

Coffee can be used as a leave-in conditioner for hair growth. It detoxifies the scalp and promotes blood circulation, thanks to the phytosterols present in it. It's the caffeine that helps in making hair smooth and shiny. You can even use it as a hairspray. Coffee also helps prevent premature grey hair or balding in both men and women.

Pro Tip: Brewed coffee powder mixed with ingredients like honey, olive oil and yoghurt can act as a homemade hair mask that benefits the hair growth process tremendously.

—by PR Gayathri, Femina

MIND, BODY & HEART



All you need to know about...

Sleep apnea and memory

More prone to memory or thinking problem

People with sleep apnea may be more likely to have memory or thinking problems, according to a preliminary study that will be presented at the American Academy of Neurology's 76th Annual Meeting in April this year.

What is sleep apnea

Sleep apnea is when people stop and restart breathing repeatedly during sleep which can lower oxygen levels in the blood. Symptoms include snoring, gasping and breathing pauses. People with the disorder may also experience morning headaches or have trouble focusing on tasks.

Often underdiagnosed

"Sleep apnea is a common disorder that is often underdiagnosed, yet treatments are available," said study author Dominique Low, MD, MPH, of Boston Medical Center in Massachusetts, and a member of the American Academy of Neurology. "Our study found participants who had sleep apnea symptoms had greater odds of having memory or thinking problems."

The study

The study involved 4,257 people. Participants completed a questionnaire asking about sleep quality as well as memory and thinking problems.

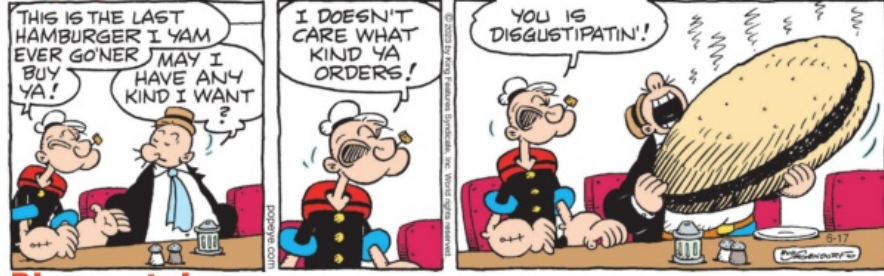
Importance of early screening

"These findings highlight the importance of early screening for sleep apnea," said Low. "Effective treatments like continuous positive airway pressure (CPAP) machines are readily available. Quality sleep, along with eating a healthy diet, regular exercise, social engagement and cognitive stimulation, may ultimately reduce a person's risk of thinking and memory problems, improving their quality of life."

—ANI

COMICS

Popeye



Bizarrotrip



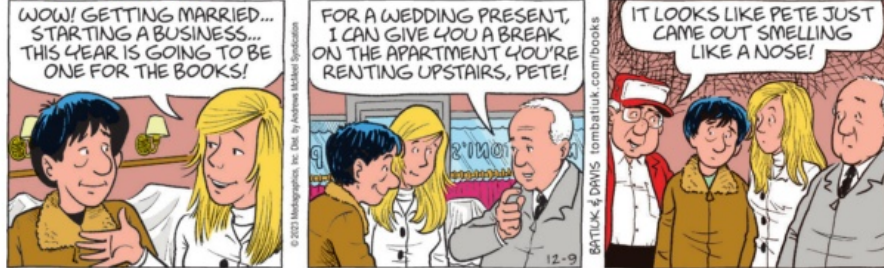
Diamond Lil



Hart of the city



Crankshaft



Mutts



WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 - Apr 20

Today, you may make decisions very fast, which may give benefits in day-to-day life. You may make some difficult decisions with the help of your colleagues. You are likely to get success easily. Property-related disputes between siblings are likely to be resolved. You may also expect some short trips.



Leo Jul 24 - Aug 23

Today, you are blessed by the moon and new sources of income are likely to open up. Your past investments will now start paying off in terms of profits. Your losses will convert into profits, which will boost your financial health. Health issues related to parents may be resolved.



Sagittarius Nov 23 - Dec 22

Today you are blessed by the moon. You may be able to make quick decisions on the professional front. You may expect to get new opportunities in terms of business, which may boost your confidence level. You are likely to start some new innovation with the help of your partner, which may increase your business in the near future.



Taurus Apr 21 - May 20

Today, you are advised to control your straightforwardness as your loose talk may affect people around you. You may spend your hard-earned money buying some worthless items. Your mind is likely to work very fast, but it is advisable to make any important decision with patience.



Virgo Aug 24 - Sep 23

Today you may implement your business plans with the help of your strong network. You may get a big order by using your wisdom. There may be good understanding between you and your spouse, which may increase harmony in your domestic life. Love birds may enjoy happy moments.



Capricorn Dec 23 - Jan 20

Today, you are blessed by the moon and you may perform well at work. You may expect some promotions or transfer in terms of gains. You may also plan to change your current job. Your relations with the family may be boosted now. Chronic health issues will be resolved now, which may make your family happy.



Gemini May 21 - Jun 21

Today you are blessed by the moon. Last couple of days' disappointment may now convert into happiness. You may enjoy professional and personal life. Your network may help you to complete projects that were postponed. You are likely to start some new venture with the help of your siblings and your network may support you at every step.



Libra Sep 24 - Oct 22

Today, the last few days' messy situation is under control. You are blessed by the moon. You may initiate your work that has been postponed. With blessings, you may get rewarded for your hard work. There are some gains in your business which may boost your finances. You may spend money on artefacts or literature. You may also plan for an overseas trip.



Aquarius Jan 21 - Feb 19

Today things will be under control and you will enjoy your work. Your focus will be good, which will reflect into your way of working. Your wisdom will help you go ahead with taking difficult decisions in terms of your profession. Your past investments will start paying off now.



Cancer Jun 22 - July 23

Today you may feel negativity around you. You may feel impatience. Focus towards goals is likely to be lost. Your grip on your projects is likely to slow down, which may be a reason for loss in the business or work. You may also notice some detachments from your responsibilities, which may affect your day-to-day routine.



Scorpio Oct 23 - Nov 22

Today, you may not feel well; you might face health issues. This may affect your professional and domestic life. You are likely to be upset due to your spouse's health issues. Your patience may be tested many times. You are advised not to make investments in new business projects, otherwise you may face losses. Students are advised to avoid indulging in fantasies and stay focused on their studies.



Pisces Feb 20 - Mar 20

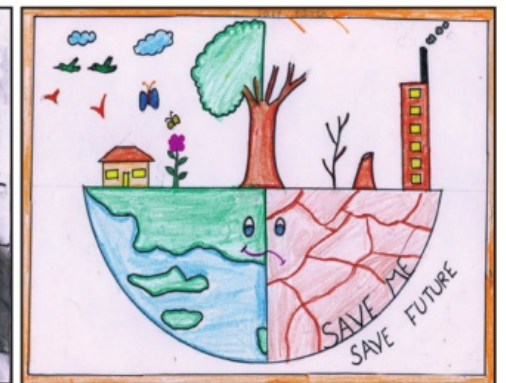
Today you may experience some disappointment with the current position at work or home. You may not enjoy your day. You may spend your hard-earned money buying some worthless items, which may affect your savings. You are likely to plan for a shift from your current place. You are advised to take care of your parents' health.



KIDZONE



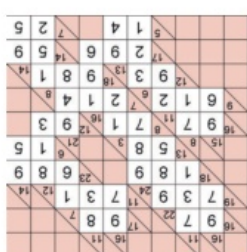
Burhanddin Rampurwala, 11 years, Candor International School



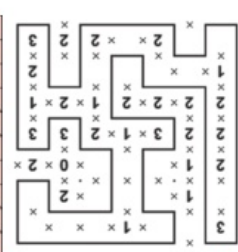
Arav Nair, Bengaluru

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No. 74/2, Sanjana Plaza, 4th & 5th Floor, Elephant Rock Road, Jayanagar 3rd block, Bengaluru-560 011; Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

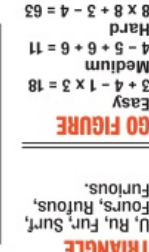
SOLUTIONS



KAKURO



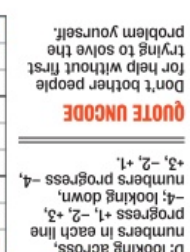
LOOP



ALPHA TRIANGLE



SUDOKU



MENSA PUZZLE



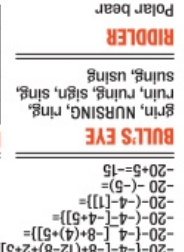
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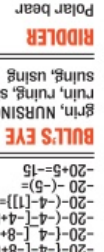
STRIKE OUT



FAST FIVE



BULL'S EYE



RIDDLE



SANDALWOOD SHOTS

Y MAHESWARA REDDY

Title revealed

Crazy Star V Ravichandran and Raghu Bhat are playing the lead characters in the film Paravasha. The movie's title was launched after a 40-day shooting schedule at a glittering function in Nelamangala on Friday.

"I am very happy to be part of this movie along with newcomers. I play a different character in this movie. The shooting for my portion is completed. I am impressed with the skills and the style of director Sudheendra Nadigar. I wish the team good luck," said Ravichandran.

Paravasha is being bankrolled by Harish Gowda under the Ayyakta Cinemas banner. It was shot at Mangaluru, Udipi, Manipal and Kundapura for 40 days. The movie features Ravichandran, Raghu Bhat, Sonal Monteiro, Pavithra Lokesh, Rajesh Nataranga, Sujay Sastry, and Ananya. Bhat who plays a key character in the movie also wrote the script while Pramod Maruvante has written the song lyrics. Nadigar said the movie has music by Sachin Basur.



Suspense thriller

Producer & Creative Director Raghu has been busy with making arrangements for the release of the movie Jog 101, a suspense and action thriller that is scheduled to hit the silver screen on March 7. Vijay Kannadiga has helmed Jog 101 in which Vijay Raghavendra plays the lead.

"Jog 101 is a suspense and action thriller with other aspects like love and comedy. Two songs from the movie have become popular. Avinash R Basutkar has composed its lilting music. My earlier movies are known for having one or two melodious songs but the movies released recently did not have such songs. I play Vikram in Jog 101. I thank cinematographer Suneeth Halageri for capturing the beauty of Jog Falls," said Vijay Raghavendra.

Recalling how producer Raghu agreed to support this movie, Vijay Kannadiga said the producer was impressed with the script. "Vijay agreed to play the lead after I narrated the script to him," said the director. Raghu said that Jog 101 is his maiden movie as a producer. "Its script is very interesting. The movie has come out well. I appeal to Kannada moviegoers for their support to this movie," said Raghu.



Keep it shimmering

Actress Jacqueline Fernandez has set the internet ablaze on Monday with her superhot pictures in a little black shimmering dress.

The diva, who has a huge fandom of 69 million followers on Instagram, dropped sizzling hot pictures in a sleeveless little black dress, with a plunging neckline.

The outfit was rounded off with black stockings, and matching stilettos. For the makeup, Jacqueline, who was most recently seen in 'Cirkus', opted for rose pink lips, blushed cheeks and a perfectly contoured face. She accessorised the look with a golden bracelet in one hand, and flaunted her nicely done manicure.

The post is captioned with a spade emoji. She gave the tune of 'All the stars' to her post.

Actress Avneet Kaur commented: "My oh my". One fan wrote: "So sexy", another said: "that black dress and youuuu". On the professional front, she next has 'Fateh' in her kitty. The movie stars Sonu Sood in the lead and is based on cybercrime, in the holy city of Amritsar, Punjab. The film is directed by Vaibhav Mishra.

—IANS



BABY'S DAY OUT

Alia's post with Raha is all things cute

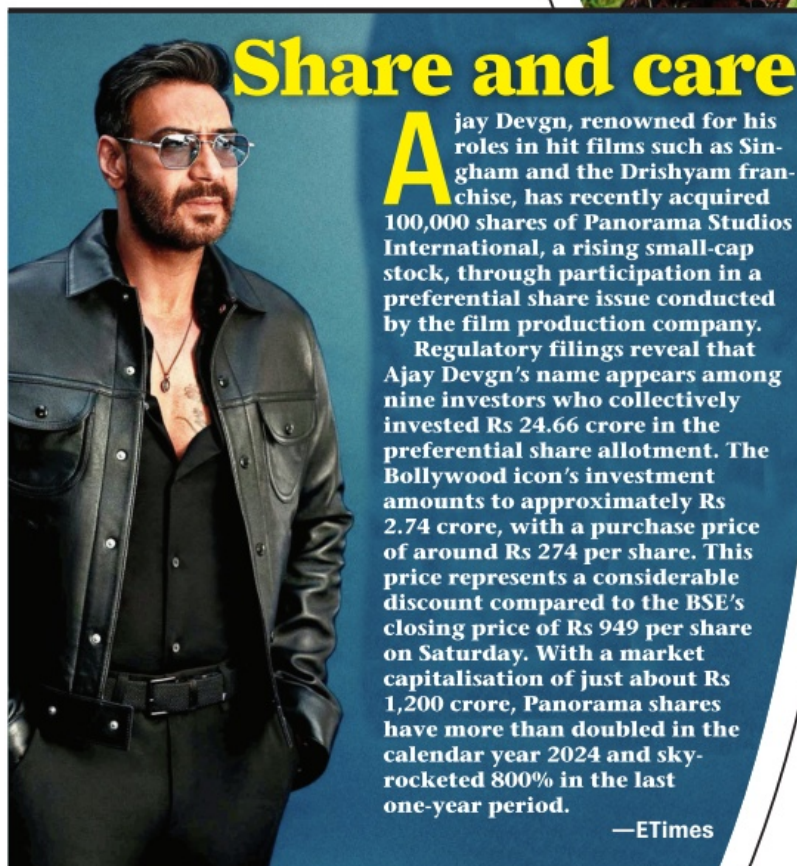
For Anant Ambani and Radhika Merchant's pre-wedding function in Jamnagar, who's who of Bollywood was in attendance. As pictures trickle in from the festivity, it is Alia Bhatt's latest post which has caught our attention.

The actress has shared the first full length picture of her daughter Raha Kapoor. For one of the functions, Raha and Alia Bhatt twinned in similar printed attires. While Alia wore a pantsuit and kept her hair open, Raha was snapped looking like a bundle of cuteness in a frock and pigtails. It seems like the picture was clicked from the event where the hosts took all their guests for a trip of Vantara, where the theme was titled as 'A walk on the Wildside'.

Alia also dropped other images, posing with actor-husband Ranbir Kapoor, while in another click she was snapped getting ready with her sister-in-law Kareena Kapoor Khan. Apart from donning a traditional attire, Alia also sported a glamorous blue gown for a party. The series of clicks also featured a picture of hers with Kareena, both dressed to the nines in their traditional attires.

Last seen in Karan Johar's Rocky Aur Rani Kii Prem Kahaani, Alia is all set to reunite with Sanjay Leela Bhansali for 'Love And War', co-starring Ranbir Kapoor and Vicky Kaushal.

—ETimes



Share and care

Ajay Devgn, renowned for his roles in hit films such as Singham and the Drishyam franchise, has recently acquired 100,000 shares of Panorama Studios International, a rising small-cap stock, through participation in a preferential share issue conducted by the film production company.

Regulatory filings reveal that Ajay Devgn's name appears among nine investors who collectively invested Rs 24.66 crore in the preferential share allotment. The Bollywood icon's investment amounts to approximately Rs 2.74 crore, with a purchase price of around Rs 274 per share. This price represents a considerable discount compared to the BSE's closing price of Rs 949 per share on Saturday. With a market capitalisation of just about Rs 1,200 crore, Panorama shares have more than doubled in the calendar year 2024 and skyrocketed 800% in the last one-year period.

—ETimes

Legacy for daughter

Actress Kate Hudson has revealed that she is saving all her red carpet looks to hand down to her daughter, Rani.

The 44-year-old star said that she has many ensembles she has worn to celebrated events over the years, which she one day plans to let 5-year-old daughter Rani Rose wear.

"I have a very extensive archive at this point," Kate told people.com. Kate added: "Not all of them I've gotten to keep over the years, but the ones that I (can), and the ones that are custom and all that, I hold onto them."

"(Rani) is already going through my shoes, and I catch her kind of opening my closet doors and looking in, peering into certain things, and I'm like, 'Oh, it just already belongs to Rani'," said Kate, who made her film debut in 1998 with 'Desert Blue'.



"So one day I'm sure I'll start to see things go missing," Kate shares her daughter with fiancée Danny Fujikawa. The actress also has sons Bingham "Bing" Hawn with former-fiancee Matt Bellamy and Ryder, 20, with ex-husband Chris Robinson.

—IANS